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One American-supported orphanage in Wuchang was accused of killing 16,000 Chinese children in the twenty-three years of its existence. The total number of relief organizations in China receiving foreign subsidy (largely from the United States) which were taken over by the Communists in 1951 was 246, with a total of 18,000 inmates. Of the organizations, 159 were designated as child welfare organizations.[43]

VI. AID TO FAMILIES OF "MARTYRS" AND SERVICEMEN

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In Communist China, aid to the families of "martyrs" and servicemen has been given serious attention. Concern for the welfare of armed forces' members and families was specified in Article 25 of the Common Program, one of the earliest documents adopted by the Peking regime. It states: "Dependents of those who have given their lives for the revolution and of members of the revolutionary forces who are in need shall receive preferential treatment from the state and from society. The People's Government shall make appropriate arrangements for disabled or retired servicemen who have participated in revolutionary war, providing them with the means of livelihood or occupation."[44] However, the nation-wide campaign did not begin until late 1950, which indicates that the activity was probably the result of the warfare in Korea.[45] On December 11, 1950, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Peking regime promulgated five sets of regulations relating to compensation for dependents of servicemen. These were provisional regulations governing preferential treatment of families of revolutionary "martyrs" →

43. Yangtze Daily, Sept. 28, 1952, p. 4.

44. The Important Documents of the First Plenary Session of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Peking, Foreign Languages Press, 1949, p. 10.

45. Relief Work Under the Chinese Communists, p. 18.

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and servicemen; preferential treatment of, and compassionate payments to, disabled servicemen; citations and compassionate payments for revolutionary workers injured or killed, and citations and compassionate payments for members of the People's Militia and laborers in military service injured or killed.[46] The preferential treatment of families of "martyrs" and servicemen included land and farming implements, government scholarships for their children, lower prices, discounts, etc. Only in cases of extreme hardship were direct payments given.

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At the time of the lunar new year in 1951, which fell on February 6 in that year, the Communists promoted a campaign to honor the families of the Chinese People's Volunteers and the People's Liberation Army. Since then, the lunar new year, usually called the Spring Festival, and Chinese Communist Army Day, August 1, have been made the occasions for honoring the families of servicemen.

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As part of the program to aid the dependents of "martyrs" and servicemen, those in the city able to work have been taught various handicrafts to assure their livelihood; in the rural areas, for those unable to work, a system of substitute-tilling has been adopted whereby land owned by such dependents is cultivated for them.

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The Central South Military and Political Committee in its annual report of 1951-52 announced oustand-

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46. Hsin-hua Yüeh-pao [New China Monthly], Peking, Vol. III, No. 3, Jan. 1951, pp. 516-21.

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ing achievements in the program to aid the families of "martyrs" and servicemen. The committee claimed to have distributed JMP$60,000,000,000 (approximately US$2,700,000) either as relief or in the form of loans. The people, said the report, were also encouraged to offer preferential treatment to the dependents of "martyrs" and servicemen. In 38 counties in Honan, a fixed system of substitute-tilling was carried out. In the I-yang county of Kiangsi, an area which had formed a part of the old base of the Chinese Soviet, 833 substitute-tilling groups were organized, and the land of 1,834 families of "martyrs" was cultivated. In the cities, it was claimed, the local governments on various levels helped many members of such families to take part in production and to secure employment. In 15 large and medium cities of Central-South China (Chengchow, Kaifeng, and Chou-chia-k'ou in Honan, Wuhan, Sha-shih, I-ch'ang and Huang-shih in Hupeh, Changsha and Heng-yang in Hunan, Nanchang in Kiangsi, Canton in Kwangtung, and Nanning, Liu-chou, Kweilin and Wuchou in Kwangsi), 29 small factories were set up for the employment of a large number of dependents of "martyrs" and servicemen. In these cities and also some counties in Central-South China, 29,697 dependents obtained employment through the recommendation of their local governments. Special schools and scholarships were set up for their children. In the three municipalities of Wuhan, Canton, and Nanchang, according to the same report, 21,217 children received free education and 10,322 children of "martyrs" and servicemen received free medical care.[47]

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47. Enlightenment Daily, July 29, 1952, p. 2.

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According to a broadcast in January 1955 by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Peking regime, incomplete statistics from 13 provinces showed more than 60 per cent of the families of "martyrs" and servicemen had become participants in mutual-aid groups and co-operatives, and many were elected officials of these organizations. Others were elected as delegates to the People's Congress or to village cadres.[48] The People's Daily (Jan. 25, 1955) reported that 382 rehabilitated veterans were elected "labor heroes" in July 1954. The same paper (Jan. 24, 1955) also reported that there was a 20 per cent increase in the number of families of servicemen joining mutual-aid groups and co-operatives in 1954 over the number in 1953. In Central-South China, statistics from 1,638 villages in 22 counties in Hupeh Province showed that of 24,039 servicemen's families, 15,099, or over 63 per cent, were participating in mutual-aid groups and co-operative organizations.

VII. CONCLUSION

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In almost all documents concerning public welfare and relief in Communist China the emphasis is on production and labor power rather than human life. In regard to famine relief in the rural areas as well as unemployment relief in the cities, the people are asked to save themselves by "self-help-through-production." Even in concern for the welfare of women and children, the chief purpose is labor power. Whereas the humanitarian element prevails in public wel- —>

48. New China Monthly, No. 2, Feb. 1955, p. 19.